

## **EducationUSA Adviser Campus Host Opportunity – EducationUSA Forum**

### **Summary**

EducationUSA advisers attend various U.S. higher education events and meetings every year. In their home countries, these advisers collectively provide information to millions of prospective international students on opportunities to study in the United States and the process of applying to U.S. educational institutions. During their time in the United States, these EducationUSA advisers have the opportunity to learn more about the diversity of programs available in the United States by visiting colleges and universities across the country. In 2016, there will be an opportunity to host a group of advisers either before or after the annual EducationUSA Forum in Washington, DC from August 2-4, 2016. The benefits to your institution include the opportunity to:

1. Introduce your campus community to the services and resources available to the U.S. higher education community through the EducationUSA Network.
2. Ensure that the EducationUSA network is familiar with your institution and the special programs of study and services that your campus provides to international students.
3. Help develop the expertise of the EducationUSA network so that advisers can better serve both perspective international students and U.S. institutions.
4. **Please submit a draft itinerary to EducationUSA Program Officer Dorothy Mora at the U.S. Department of State (MoraDD@state.gov) by, June 2, if you are interested in hosting advisers.**

### **Funding**

Adviser international travel to the United States is funded by the Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Host institutions must provide funding for all other costs including local/in-country transportation, lodging and meals for approximately 4 days.

### **Background**

EducationUSA is a U.S. Department of State network of approximately 400 overseas international student advising centers that promote U.S. higher education by providing prospective international students with accurate, current, and comprehensive information about opportunities to study at accredited U.S. colleges and universities. Centers are located in a variety of venues across the globe including U.S. embassies, Fulbright Commissions, binational centers, and non-governmental organizations

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

Q. What is a Campus Host?

A. A Campus Host is a representative of a U.S. college or university who agrees to arrange a program of activities for an overseas educational adviser.

Q. How long should the visit be?

A. Visits should be approximately four days before or after the 2016 EducationUSA annual Forum. Host campuses should partner with neighboring institutions if possible to ensure participants' exposure to a wide range of institutional types.

Q. What are a Host's responsibilities?

A. Hosts ensure advisers gain a thorough understanding of their college/university admissions process, academic program offerings, international student services, and student life on campus.

Q. What should a Campus Visit Itinerary include?

A. Following are suggested activities:

Meetings with current international and domestic students (at the associates, undergraduate, and graduate levels as is applicable)

#### Admissions Office

##### Overview of the Admissions Process

- common reasons why international student applicants are accepted or rejected
- how the transfer evaluation process works
- how overseas academic credentials are evaluated
- policies on early admissions/early decision/early action
- institution's expectations regarding: standardized tests, academic background, letters of recommendation, essays/personal statements, financial requirements

#### Financial Aid Office

##### Financial Aid – Availability and Award Process

#### International Student Office

Advisers meet with international student advisers to:

- discuss the structure, role, and activities of the office
- observe advising in process
- compare advisers' pre-departure orientation program with university's orientation program focusing on content duplication and crucial topics that should be included

Campus Tour (include dormitory, cafeteria, bookstore, library, classrooms)

#### Adviser Presentations

Advisers may make presentations to the campus community on the EducationUSA network and services for students and U.S. institutions, educational systems in the advisers' home countries, cultural, social, and economic factors that impact international students' decisions about whether/where to study in the United States, the adviser's role in preparing students for the visa application process, testing issues, etc.

#### Classroom Visits

Advisers learn about classroom environment and culture including U.S. faculty expectations regarding classroom participation, assignments, attendance and punctuality, interactions with professors in the classroom and during office hours, academic integrity, etc.

#### Health Center

Advisers learn about the health care services available on campus and how international students can access them.

#### Campus Security

Advisers learn what safety/security issues and what services are available on campus.

#### Campus Ministry/Religious Center

Advisers learn about how the university supports students from all faith traditions.

#### Career Service Office

Advisers meet with career services staff to learn about office programs and activities.

#### Departmental Visits

- Meet with faculty members

- Receive overview of the athletic department structure and availability of athletic scholarships
- Receive overview of graduate assistant selection process (where applicable) (if graduate institution)
- Meet with website coordinator to discuss strategies for reaching international student populations through the institutional website and social media campaign

#### CHECKLIST FOR CAMPUS HOSTS

- Contact advisers prior to program start to obtain advisers' program objectives
- Provide information on weather, food, and accommodations
- Make local/logistical arrangements (transportation, lodging)
- Group of advisers will be between 4-8 people, maximum, and advisers of the same gender may share a room.
- Confirm meetings and brief all who will be meeting with advisers
- Arrange pickup to and from airport